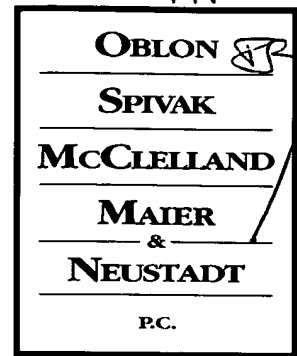




Docket No.: 275754US6

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/843,400

Applicants: Takanori NISHIMURA

Filing Date: April 26, 2001

For: INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
METHOD, INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM
AND MEDIUM

Group Art Unit: 2625

Examiner: ROHWER, J. P.

SIR:

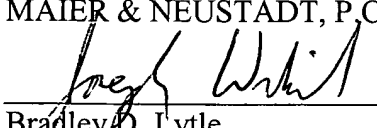
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Appeal Brief with appendices

Our credit card payment form in the amount of **\$500.00** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Bradley D. Lytle

Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)

(703) 413-2220 (fax)

I:\ATTY\JW\275754us\275754 PTO CVR 1.30.07.doc

Joseph Wrkich

Registration No. 53,796

DOCKET NO: 275754US6



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TAKANORI NISHIMURA : EXAMINER: ROHWER, J. P.
SERIAL NO: 09/843,400 :
FILED: APRIL 26, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2625
FOR: INFORMATION PROCESSING :
APPARATUS AND METHOD,
INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM
AND MEDIUM

APPEAL BRIEF

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This is an Appeal Brief of the Final Rejection dated August 30, 2006, which finally rejected Claims 1, 4-10, 13-19, 22-28, and 31-38 in the above-identified patent application.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in this appeal is the assignee Sony Corporation.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants' legal representative and assignee are aware of no appeals which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have any bearing on the board's decision in this appeal.

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III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 4-10, 13-19, 22-28, and 31-38 stand finally rejected, and the rejection of Claim 1 is appealed herewith. A clean copy of pending Claims 1, 4-10, 13-19, 22-28, and 31-38 is attached in the claims appendix. As Claims 1, 4-10, 13-19, 22-28, and 31-38 will stand or fall together, Claim 1 is discussed herein as exemplary of the deficiencies of the rejections of record.

IV. STATUS OF THE AMENDMENTS

After the final Office Action of August 30, 2006, an amendment amending Claims 1, 10, 19, 28, 37, and 38, was filed on October 30, 2006. The Advisory Action mailed on October November 17, 2006, indicated that this amendment was entered.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER¹

Claim 1 is directed toward an information processing apparatus configured to transmit an E-mail information, the E-mail information including an E-mail message body and an attached file to a reception terminal. Figs. 2 and 4 of the present application show exemplary information processing apparatuses that embody the claimed invention. Fig. 6 of the present application shows an exemplary display on a desktop screen of a personal computer in a case where the E-mail program embodying the present invention is booted and, in conjunction therewith, the capture program is also booted. In this state, there are displayed, on the desktop screen, a mail window 230. The comment inputting area 232 is an area in which a user is to input a comment as the main text of the E-mail. In the embodiment of Fig. 6, there is shown

¹ It is Appellants' understanding that, under the new rules of Practice before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interference, 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c) requires that a concise explanation of the subject matter recited in each independent claim be provided with reference to the specification by page and line numbers and to the drawings by reference characters. However, Appellants' compliance with such requirements anywhere in this document should in no way be interpreted as limiting the scope of the claims or an incorporation of limitations from the specification to the claims beyond the plain meaning of the claim language, but simply as non-limiting examples thereof.

such a state in which a comment reading: "a photo is now sent" has been input to the comment inputting area 232.² The thumbnail image display area 236 is a display area for demonstrating a thumbnail image of an image captured by the capture program, and to be sent as an attached file.³

The information processing apparatus of Claim 1 includes an accommodating capability verifying unit configured to verify an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal.

Fig. 12 of the present application is flow chart showing the flow of a verification of the reception terminal. At step S34, the CPU 51 verifies that the reception terminal accommodates the E-mail, having the image file attached thereto.⁴ This can be done using only the domain name.

In general, in transmitting an E-mail, there necessarily exists the mail address of a counterpart side. The mail address is represented e.g., as [aaaa @ bbbb.cc.dd] or as aaaa @ bbbb.dd], with the number of letters being arbitrary. The [aaaa] ahead of @ is the information for identifying a user receiving the E-mail, and may be set arbitrarily by a user, wherein there may be a sole or plural number of user terminals. The [bbbb.cc.dd] or the [bbbb.dd], at back of @, is termed a domain name, used for identifying a company, organization, E-mail servicing company, an Internet provider or a personal computer communication firm, and is set from one company or E-mail servicing company etc., to another. Meanwhile, the [.dd] at the trailing end of the domain name is classified into a top level domain as set from territory to territory and a general top level domain as set irrespective of the territory.⁵

² Specification, page 32, line 20 to page 33, line 2.

³ Specification, page 3, lines 7-8.

⁴ Specification, page 43, line 17 to page 44, line 17.

⁵ Specification, page 13.

If the reception terminal is a portable telephone set, the domain name is set in a majority of cases from one portable telephone servicing company to another, so that it is probably possible to identify the portable telephone servicing company from the domain name of the mail address of the transmitted E-mail. That is, if it can be specified from the domain name of the mail address of the transmitted E-mail to which of the portable telephone servicing companies corresponds the portable telephone set, it presumably becomes possible to specify the type of the portable telephone set, file format that can be accommodated by the portable telephone set, such as image format, the maximum size of the E-mail that can be accommodated by the portable telephone set, the maximum file size of the display means of the portable telephone set, or the maximum pixel size or the maximum number of colors, these being hereinafter termed capabilities accommodated, as appropriate.⁶

The information processing apparatus of Claim 1 also includes an information converting unit configured to convert the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information.

If the reception terminal is able to accommodate the E-mail, having the image file attached thereto, the CPU 51 checks the condition of an image that can be handled by the reception terminal through a server accessible for the user, in accordance with the E-mail program, and sets the variables nImageFormat, nImageMaxWidth, nImageMaxHeight, nImageMaxSize and nImageMaxColor, based on the verified result. That is, the CPU 51 sets, based on the verified result as to the condition of the image that can be handled by the reception terminal, or the verified result as to the condition of the image that can be handled

⁶ *Id.*

by e.g., a personal computer owned by the user of the reception terminal, the sort of the image format, as the aforementioned variable `nImageFormat`, and the maximum width and height of the image as the aforementioned `nImageMaxWidth` and `nImageMaxHeight`, respectively. CPU 51 also sets the maximum file size of the image as the variable `nImageMaxSize`, while setting the maximum number of colors of the image as the variable `nImageMaxColor`.⁷

CPU 51 initializes variables `cSize`, `nColor`, and `nRatio`. `cSize` is the maximum image size that can be received by the reception terminal. `nColor` is the maximum number of colors that can be received and displayed by the reception terminal. CPU 51 converts the size of the original image and the number of colors in accordance with the capabilities of the reception terminal.⁸

The information processing unit also includes a transmission unit configured to transmit the E-mail information. CPU 51 sends the E-mail, having the attached image file thereto to a specified address.⁹ Furthermore, the transmission of the E-mail information may be done by modem 75 shown in Fig. 4 of the present application.

Claim 10 of the present application is a method claim that corresponds to Claim 1. The method of Claim 1 includes verifying an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal.

Fig. 12 of the present application is flow chart showing the flow of a verification of the reception terminal. At step S34, the CPU 51 verifies that the reception terminal accommodates the E-mail, having the image file attached thereto.¹⁰ At step S39 of Fig. 12,

⁷ Specification, page 44, lines 18 to page 45, line 11.

⁸ Specification, page 45, line 21 to page 46, line 16.

⁹ Specification, page 41, lines 15-17.

¹⁰ Specification, page 43, line 17 to page 44, line 17.

CPU 51 checks the condition of an image that can be handled by the reception terminal.¹¹

This can be done using only the domain name as described above.

The method of Claim 10 also includes converting the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information.

Step S13 of Fig. 7 describes the converting step. At step S13 of Fig. 7, CPU 51 creates an image file for transmission, based on various variables consistent with the reception terminal.¹² If the reception terminal is able to accommodate the E-mail, having the image file attached thereto, the CPU 51 checks the condition of an image that can be handled by the reception terminal through a server accessible for the user, in accordance with the E-mail program, and sets the variables nImageFormat, nImageMaxWidth, nImageMaxHeight, nImageMaxSize and nImageMaxColor, based on the verified result. That is, the CPU 51 sets, based on the verified result as to the condition of the image that can be handled by the reception terminal, or the verified result as to the condition of the image that can be handled by e.g., a personal computer owned by the user of the reception terminal, the sort of the image format, as the aforementioned variable nImageFormat, and the maximum width and height of the image as the aforementioned nImageMaxWidth and nImageMaxHeight, respectively.¹³

Furthermore, Fig. 13 shows the detailed flow of processing for creation of an image for transmission. As shown in steps S42 and S43 of Fig. 13, image size and color are

¹¹ Specification, page 44, lines 18-20.

¹² Specification, page 38, line 20 to page 39, line 6.

¹³ Specification, page 44, lines 18 to page 45, line 11.

converted, and the converted image is saved. CPU 51 converts the size of the original image in keeping with the variable size capability of the reception terminal.¹⁴

The method also includes transmitting the E-mail information. Fig. 7, S16, shows sending the mail. CPU 51 sends the E-mail, having the attached image file thereto to a specified address.¹⁵

Claim 19 is a system which includes subject matter of Claim 1. The system of Claim 19 includes a transmission terminal and a reception terminal. Support for the transmission terminal is substantially duplicative to the discussion of Claim 1.

Claim 19 also includes a reception terminal including a reception unit configured to receive the E-mail information sent from the terminal, and an information opening unit configured to open the E-mail information. The reception terminal, for example, may be a portable telephone 304 as shown in Fig. 1 of the present application. As shown in Fig. 1, portable telephone 304 can receive information from computer 315, which is an example of a transmission terminal. The reception terminal is configured to open the E-mail information.¹⁶

Claim 28 is a method claim corresponding to the system of Claim 19, and the support for this claim is substantially duplicative to the explanation of Claims 10 and 19.

Claim 37 is a computer readable medium claim, which stores instructions for causing an information processing apparatus to perform a method similar to the method of 10, and the support for this description is substantially duplicative to the explanation of Claim 10.

Claim 38 is a computer readable medium claim, which stores instructions for causing an information processing apparatus to perform a method similar to the method of 28 (which in turn is similar to the method of Claim 10), and the support for this claim is substantially duplicative to the explanation of Claim 10.

¹⁴ Specification, page 46, lines 11-16.

¹⁵ Specification, page 41, lines 15-17.

¹⁶ Specification, page 61, lines 8-12.

VI. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The ground of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is whether independent Claim 1 is anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as unpatentable over Toyoda (U.S. Patent No. 6,335,966, hereinafter Toyoda).

1. The differences between the claimed subject matter of Claim 1 and fair suggestions of Toyoda have not been correctly ascertained.

The Final Action dated August 30, 2006 states that Toyoda discloses all the elements of Claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that Toyoda fails to teach or suggest all the elements of Claim 1.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “an accommodating capability verifying unit configured to verify an information accommodating capability in a least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal.” Toyoda does not disclose or suggest this element of Claim 1.

Toyoda describes an Internet facsimile apparatus (IFAX) that makes an inquiry about the about capability of a destination apparatus to a local server. Fig. 3 of Toyoda is functional block diagram of which shows part of the functions of IFAX. An email generation section 32 generates an email including image data output from the data processing section 20. A destination address of the email according to an input from the panel section 29 is sent to the email generation section 32. The email generated by the email generation section 32 is transmitted to a mail server via the network control section 28 by a mail transmitting section 33. Destination terminal information is pre-registered in a destination table 36. A capability registration section has a function of registering capability information of the destination terminal newly obtained to the server 13A. The server 13A stores capability information about the destination terminal in a capability exchange table 50.

Fig. 1 of Toyoda shows that an IFAX machine 11A is capable of communicating with server 13A to retrieve information about the receiving terminal from the capability exchange table.¹⁷ Fig. 5 of Toyoda shows that for each receiving fax machine, various capability items are provided and stored in the capability exchange table 50. In other words, the IFAX machine 11A, before sending a fax to a fax machine 11B, retrieves information about the fax machine 11B from server 13A.

As shown in Fig. 5, Toyoda discloses that capability items are obtained based on a combination of the telephone number, the mail address, and the type of fax machine.¹⁸

Furthermore, Toyoda states “Capability of the destination terminal is determined in accordance with the kind of destination terminal.”¹⁹

Thus, Toyoda does not disclose or suggest that only a domain name is used to determine capability information from server 13A.

If server 13A can not provide the capability information of the reception device, then the IFAX machine will contact DNS server 14A. Server 14A stores a zone information table, an example of which is shown in Fig. 6 of Toyoda. The zone information table comprises an MX record. A delivery destination of a mail to an original (domain name abc.co.jp) is described in the MX record. The zone information table also includes an FX record. The FX record contains the capability information. As shown in Fig. 6 of Toyoda, the FX records contain the capability information for ifax1 and ifax2. The domain name of the network terminal is used to search for the DNS server managing the domain name.²⁰

The domain name, alone, is not used to obtain the capability information. The domain name of the network terminal is used to search for the DNS server managing the domain name. The domain name, alone, is not used to obtain the capability information. The

¹⁷ Toyoda, col. 6, lines 43-54.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Toyoda, col. 6, lines 47-48.

²⁰ Toyoda, col. 7, lines 36-40.

domain name is merely used to locate the DNS server that contains the capability information.²¹ How the capability information is obtained from the DNS server is shown in Fig. 14 of Toyoda.

Fig. 14 of Toyoda describes the operation of DNS server 14A. The DNS server 14A receives an inquiry about the capability of IFAX 11B from IFAX 11A. The IFAX 11A makes an inquiry using a command for requesting capability information and a mail address of a destination terminal (host IFAX 11B). A mail address is different than a domain name, as discussed above with reference to the description of the claimed invention.

Page 2 of the outstanding Final Rejection (mailed 8/30/06) states “Col. 13 Lin 15-20 discloses a capability inquiry that can possibly determined by the domain name of the recipient.” However, this portion of Toyoda merely discloses that IFAX 11A makes an inquiry using a command for requesting capability information and a mail address of a destination terminal. A mail address of a destination terminal is not **only the domain name**. The mail address includes information in addition to the domain name, such as the host or user name.

The Advisory Action mailed on November 17, 2006 states that col. 13, lines 35-38 of Toyoda discloses an example where capability information can be verified based only on the domain name of the mail address. This assertion is incorrect. As explained below, the cited portion of Toyoda merely discloses that a host name, a user name, or a mail address can be used to search for and obtain capability information. However, a host name, a user name, or a mail address is **not only the domain name**. The mail address includes a domain name, but also includes a user name (and maybe a host name). The host name and the user name are not the domain name. Using the domain name, in conjunction with other information, does not equate to only using the domain name.

²¹ Toyoda, col. 7.

Furthermore, Toyoda discloses that if a host name (ifax1) is included in the mail address (xxx@ifax1.abc.co.jp), capability information is searched and obtained using a FAX record in connection with the host name.²² This clearly discloses using the host name to obtain capability information, and does not disclose or suggest using only the domain name.

Also, if no host name is included in the mail address (xxx@abc.co.jp), capability information is searched and obtained using a user name (xxx) put before the @ mark. In this case, the mail address (not only the domain name) or the user name is registered in a name item for a zone information table. Toyoda specifically states that the mail address is the user name and the domain. Toyoda states "...the mail address as in 'xxx@abc.co.jp'...."²³ Furthermore, when Toyoda wants to refer to the domain name, it clearly does so.²⁴ Thus, either the host name or the mail address (which includes the host name and the domain name) are used to obtain the capability information.

Thus, no example in Toyoda uses only the domain name to determine the capability of a receiving device.

Thus, Toyoda does not disclose or suggest the claimed "an accommodating capability verifying unit configured to verify an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal" of Claim 1.

Furthermore, the other independent claims recite a similar feature, and patentably distinguish over Toyoda for at least the reasons stated for Claim 1.

²² Toyoda, col. 13, lines 35-38.

²³ Toyoda, col. 13, line 39.

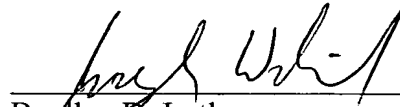
²⁴ Toyoda, col. 7, line 8.

VII. CONCLUSION

In view of these foregoing comments, each of the pending clearly distinguish over the applied references, and thus the outstanding rejections of Claims 1, 4-10, 13-19, 22-28, and 31-38 must be REVERSED.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 59,140

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Joseph Wrkich
Registration No. 53,796

CLAIMS APPENDIX

Claim 1. An information processing apparatus configured to transmit an E-mail information, said E-mail information including an E-mail message body and an attached file to a reception terminal, the apparatus comprising:

an accommodating capability verifying unit configured to verify an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal;

an information converting unit configured to convert the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information; and

a transmission unit configured to transmit said E-mail information.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, if said reception terminal or said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, said information converting unit is configured to include in the E-mail information a statement of a method enabling a user of said reception terminal to confirm the contents of said attached file.

Claim 5. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein, if said reception terminal or said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not

matched to the attached file, said information converting unit sends accessing information to means for saving said attached file information in said E-mail information as a method enabling the confirmation of the contents of said attached file.

Claim 6. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the attached file is an image file.

Claim 7. The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or said communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, a format of the attached file, and the maximum file size of the attached file.

Claim 8. The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or said communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, an image format of the attached image file, a maximum file size of the image file, a maximum pixel size of the image corresponding to said image file, and a maximum number of colors of an image corresponding to said image file.

Claim 9. The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein, if said image file is a moving image file and the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or said communication system encompassing said reception terminal corresponds only to a still image file, said information converting unit renders one or plural frames making up said moving image file into the attached file attached to said E-mail information.

Claim 10. An information processing method for transmitting an E-mail information, said E-mail information including an E-mail message body and an attached file, to a reception terminal, comprising:

verifying an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal;

converting the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information; and

transmitting said E-mail information.

Claims 11-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13. The information processing method according to claim 10, wherein, if said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, the method further comprising:

including a statement of a method enabling an owner of said reception terminal to confirm the contents of said attached file in the E-mail information.

Claim 14. The information processing method according to claim 13, wherein, if said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, the method further comprises:

sending accessing information to a means for saving said attached file, wherein said accessing information is included in said E-mail information as the method enabling the contents of said attached file to be confirmed.

Claim 15. The information processing method according to claim 10, wherein the attached file is an image file.

Claim 16. The information processing method according to claim 10, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, a format of said attached file, and a maximum file size of said attached file.

Claim 17. The information processing method according to claim 15, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, an image format of said image file, a maximum file size of said image file, a maximum pixel size of an image matched to said image file, and a maximum number of colors of an image corresponding to said image file.

Claim 18. The information processing method according to claim 15, wherein, if the image file is a moving image file and the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is matched only to a still image file, one frame or plural frames making up said moving image file is rendered into the attached file of said E-mail information.

Claim 19. An information processing system comprising:

- one or more reception terminals;
- one or more transmission terminals;
- said one or more transmission terminals configured to send an E-mail information, said E-mail information including an E-mail message body and an attached file, to a desired reception terminal including
 - an accommodating capability verifying unit configured to verify an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to said reception terminal,
 - an information converting unit configured to convert the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information, and
 - a transmission unit configured to transmit said transfer information;
- said reception terminal including a reception unit configured to receive said E-mail information sent from said transmission terminal, and
- an information opening unit configured to open the E-mail information.

Claims 20-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22. The information processing system according to claim 19, wherein, if said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, said information converting unit is configured to include in the

E-mail information a statement of a method enabling a user of said reception terminal to confirm the contents of said attached file and the E-mail information, including said statement, is transmitted by said transmission unit.

Claim 23. The information processing system according to claim 19 wherein, if said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, said information converting unit of said transmission terminal sends the accessing information to means for saving said attached file in said E-mail information as the method enabling the contents of said attached file to be confirmed.

Claim 24. The information processing system according to claim 19, wherein the attached file is an image file.

Claim 25. The information processing system according to claim 19, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, a format of said attached file, and a maximum file size of said attached file.

Claim 26. The information processing system according to claim 24, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, an image format of said image file, a maximum file size of said image file, a maximum pixel size of an image matched to said image file, and maximum number of colors of an image corresponding to said image file.

Claim 27. The information processing system according to claim 24, wherein, if the image file is a moving image file and the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is matched only to a still image file, said information converting means of said transmission terminal renders one frame only or plural frames making up said moving image file into the attached file.

Claim 28. An information processing method for transferring an E-mail information, said E-mail information including an E-mail message body and attached file, from a transmission terminal to a reception terminal, comprising:

verifying an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or in a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in transmitting the E-mail information to said reception terminal;

converting the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or in said communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information to be transmitted;

transmitting said E-mail information;

receiving said E-mail information; and

opening the E-mail information.

Claims 29-30 (Canceled).

Claim 31. The information processing method according to claim 28, wherein, if said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, the method further comprising:

including a statement of a method enabling an owner of said reception terminal to confirm the contents of said attached file in the E-mail information;

sending said E-mail;

receiving the E-mail; and

executing the method for enabling confirmation of the contents of said file information stated in the E-mail received.

Claim 32. The information processing method according to claim 28 wherein, if said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to the attached file, the method further includes:

sending accessing information to a means for saving said attached file, wherein said accessing information is included in said E-mail information as a method enabling confirmation of the contents of said attached file;

transmitting said E-mail;

receiving the E-mail; and

accessing said means for saving based on the accessing information stated in the E-mail received.

Claim 33. The information processing method according to claim 28, wherein the attached file is an image file.

Claim 34. The information processing method according to claim 28, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, format of said attached file, and a maximum file size of said attached file.

Claim 35. The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal includes a maximum size of the E-mail information, the image format of said image file, a maximum file size of said image file, a maximum pixel size of an image matched to said image file, and a maximum number of colors of an image corresponding to said image file.

Claim 36. The information processing method according to claim 33, wherein, if the image file is a moving image file and the information accommodating capability of said reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is matched only to a still image file, one frame or plural frames making up said moving image file are rendered into the attached file.

Claim 37. A computer readable medium configured to store instructions for causing an information processing apparatus to execute a program for transmitting an E-mail information, said E-mail information including an E-mail message body and an attached file, comprising steps of:

verifying an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to the reception terminal;

converting the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said a reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information; and

transmitting said E-mail information.

Claim 38. A computer readable medium configured to store instructions for causing an information processing apparatus to execute a program for transmitting an E-mail information, said E-mail information including a message body and an attached file, comprising steps of:

verifying an information accommodating capability in at least a reception terminal or a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, based only on a domain of an E-mail address used in sending the E-mail information to the reception terminal;

converting the E-mail information into a format matching the information accommodating capability in said reception terminal or a communication system encompassing said reception terminal, if the information accommodating capability in said a reception terminal or the communication system encompassing said reception terminal is not matched to said E-mail information;

transmitting said E-mail information;

receiving the E-mail information; and

opening the E-mail information.

Application No. 09/843,400

Reply to Office Action of August 30, 2006

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

NONE

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

NONE